

Objection to the Drawing

A requirement has been made to show the feature of claim 15 in the drawings or cancel the feature from the claims. It is requested to cancel claim 15 to obviate the requirement. Entry is requested.

Rejection under 35 USC 103Over JP 8-80691 in view of Murray

Claims 6-11 and 14-15 stand rejected as unpatentable over JP 8-80691 in view of Murray, US 2,213,920, September 3, 1940. This rejection is traversed, but is submitted to be obviated with respect to claims 14-15 by amendment of claim 14 to depend from an allowed claim and by the cancellation of claim 15. The above amendment of claim 6 is submitted to obviate the obviousness rejection with respect to claims 6-11.

Claim 6 (amended) distinguishes the combination of references by reciting an "annual calendar formed by a plurality of sheets of paper each having a monthly artwork image on one face and a monthly calendar image on an opposite face, and a plurality of removable scent elements" . . .

"wherein the artwork images comprise images of flowers, and the scent elements which are carried by the calendar carry flower scents corresponding to the artwork images, wherein the removable scent elements are encased in a plastic wrapper which can be removed by a user to release a scent which corresponds to a monthly artwork image."

The Japanese patent discloses printing the calendar with aromatic ink. The calendar sheets containing the ink may be sealed with plastic front and back to avoid releasing their scent prior to the time such release is desired. The Japanese patent does not disclose or suggest a removable scent element sealed encased in a plastic wrapper, nor does Murray. These items cannot by their silence be suggestive of the claimed invention.

The examiner is correct in stating that separate scent elements are known. However, there is nothing in the combination of references which suggests positioning removable scent elements encased in a plastic wrapper in a calendar. As the examiner points out, the claimed invention provides simplified construction over the Japanese disclosure. Further, because ink compatibility with the scent is not an issue in the invention, the invention permits the use of a greater number of scents. In the invention, the scent elements could be separately impregnated batch-wise, and then assembled into a calendar, or added to an already compiled calendar, a low-tech solution as compared to the Japanese patent, that provides better flexibility in selecting scents and in assembling the calendar.

The invention also permits, at the end of the month, eliminating the scent from the calendar corresponding to the prior month's image, while leaving the prior month's date-bearing portion of the calendar intact, by simply removing and discarding the spent scent element. In the Japanese calendar, past months would have to be removed in order to eliminate the scent from them. The invention thus provides the utility of retaining the presence of the past months on wall calendar while providing fresh scent unmixed with prior month's scents. Further, the user can remove the scent element earlier than the end of the month if they do not care for it.

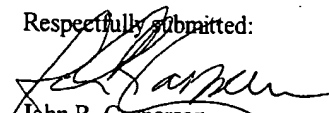
In view of the forgoing amendment and remarks, entry of the amendment and reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection with respect to claims 6-11 and 14-15 is respectfully solicited.

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 5, 2002**

In the claims

The claims have been amended as shown and discussed below.

Claim 6 is amended as follows:

6. (Twice Amended) A scented wall calendar which comprises an annual calendar formed by a plurality of sheets of paper each having a monthly artwork image on one face and a monthly calendar image on an opposite face, and a plurality of removable scent elements, wherein the artwork image is oriented upside down with respect to the monthly calendar image on the opposite face so that flipping a face bearing a monthly calendar image upwardly about a horizontally disposed axis reveals an artwork image positioned above a next following monthly calendar image, both in an upright orientation, wherein each sheet defines an aperture adjacent a bottom edge of the calendar image and adjacent an upper edge of the artwork image to permit the calendar to be mounted to a wall hook or nail, wherein the artwork images comprise images of flowers, and the removable scent elements which are carried by the calendar carry flower scents corresponding to the artwork images, wherein the scent elements are encased in a plastic wrapper which can be removed by a user to release a scent which corresponds to a monthly artwork image.

Support: Page 6, lines 11-12 of the specification as filed, which states "In one embodiment of the invention, each removable scent element is configured to be attached to the calendar."

Claim 14 is amended as shown:

14. (Amended) A scented calendar as in claim [11] 12 further comprising a plastic wrapper encasing the scent element which can be removed by the user to release the scent.

Claim 15 is cancelled.